SPORTS / A31
Nokia-RP Youth five overwhelms Singapore, bags Seaba crown

BUSINESS / B1
PLDT posts 3-month net profit of P10.4 B

ACROSS / A19
Palawan officials break off from Palace position on Kalayaan as outside RP

NEWS / A2
Thailand gives up proposal of 5-nation rice cartel

LIFESTYLE / C2
2bU: 8 adventures to have with mother

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, May 7, 2008 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 23 / No. 149 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Soaring prices push inflation rate to 8.3%

By Doris Dumlao

SKYROCKETING FOOD AND FUEL prices pushed the country's inflation rate to a three-year high of 8.3 percent in April, putting pressure on the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) to raise interest rates despite the threat such a move could pose to economic growth.

The National Statistics Office yesterday reported that food prices rose by an average of 12 percent in April compared to only 8.4 percent in March.

The price of rice, which accounts for nearly a third of the food expenditures of the poorest households, soared in April by nearly 25 percent from its level a year

SOARING/A2

World oil nears record high of $121 per barrel

SINGAPORE—WORLD OIL REACHED A new record price near US$121 a barrel on Tuesday as concerns eased over an economic slowdown in the United States.

Analysts said the surge in oil prices was also fueled by worries about threats to crude supplies and a weakening of the US dollar.

WORLD OIL/A8

Palace: Lopez family could lose Meralco

By Michael Lim Ubac

LEGAZPI CITY—WILL SHE OR WILL she not?

Is President Macapagal-Arroyo all-out to get Meralco from the Lopezes?

Malacañang yesterday admitted that the Lopez family could lose control of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) in a boardroom battle, but said this should not be interpreted as a government takeover of the power distributor.

Sergio Apostol, President Macapagal-Arroyo's chief legal counsel, said by phone that the Arroyo administration had no plans to wrest control of Meralco from the Lopezes.

"The GSIS (Government Service Insurance System) is only interested in the shady transactions and finances of Meralco. It has no interest in a leadership battle. I think there is no sense of talking this way because a corporation is controlled by majority stockholders," Apostol said.

But when asked if a takeover of the

PALACE/A10

22,000 dead in Burma

41,000 more missing; one town alone has 10,000 dead

RANGOON—MASSIVE waves swept away entire villages, bodies littered rice fields and as many as one million people were rendered homeless after Cyclone Nargis slammed into Burma (Myanmar), killing more than 22,000 residents and leaving 41,000 others missing.

Thousands more were feared dead in one of Asia's worst natural disasters. About 10,000 of those killed were in the town of Bogalay, 90 km southwest of Rangoon (Yangon), alone.

Blackouts, water shortages, soaring food and fuel prices and despair gripped Burma's biggest city of Rangoon four days after the cyclone ripped across the low-lying Irrawaddy delta.

State radio said Tuesday 22,464 people were now confirmed dead from the cyclone.

In Washington, US first lady Laura Bush, one of the fiercest international critics of Burma's government, accused the ruling generals of not doing enough to warn their people before the cyclone hit.

"Although they were aware of the threat, Burma's state-run media failed to issue a timely warning to citizens in the storm's path," she said at the White House.

Burma has long been a target of international criticism, not least because of its long detention of democracy icon and Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung

22,000/A10





SCENES OF DESPERATION Christian aid groups report seeing from helicopters fields littered with corpses of the victims in Rangoon, Burma. Fallen trees all over the streets are part of the devastation wrought by the storm, the worst to hit Asia since 1991. Other health workers observe that Burma may have been hit harder by this cyclone than the Asian tsunami in 2004. AP

'The army came like ants last time, now I don't see any'

RANGOON—AS CITY RESIDENTS surveyed the uprooted trees, severed telephone cables and mangled billboards on the streets of Rangoon, there was also anger at the military government, which has ruled Burma since 1962.

"Last time, they came here, just like ants, from where I don't know," said one man, comparing the reaction of security forces when they cracked down last September on Buddhist monk-led protests against the military junta.

"Now I can't see any—no army, no police."

When Cyclone Nargis hit Burma's (Myanmar) main city of Rangoon, Win Myint barely managed to save his 3-month-old daughter as powerful winds uprooted a tree and slammed it into his home.

He scooped up the screaming infant and fled with the rest of his family into the fury of the storm, pressing through the driving rain to seek shelter at a Buddhist temple in the satellite city of Dagon.

"We had to run for our lives during the storm at 3 a.m.," the 38-year-old told Agence France-Presse, while carrying his baby. "We were frightened. We have nothing now. I don't even have milk powder for my daughter."

THE ARMY/A10



CASUAL ENCOUNTER President Arroyo and her Cabinet hold an informal interaction with the press at Gota Beach, Caramoan, Camarines Sur, on Monday night. The French edition of the popular reality show "Survivor" has been shooting on the white fine beaches of Caramoan the past two months. From left, Secretaries Peter Favila of trade, Joseph Durano, tourism, Rolando Andaya, budget, and Camarines Sur Gov. LRay Villafuerte. Behind Andaya is the President's son, Rep. Dato Arroyo.

Before Trillanes was Vizmanos, the 'original rebel soldier'

By DJ Yap

BEFORE THE LIKES OF ANTONIO TRILLANES IV, there was Danilo "Ka Dan" Vizmanos, the quintessential "young rebel officer" who fought against martial law and continued to wage the good fight.

A retired Navy captain, Vizmanos resisted Ferdinand Marcos' dictatorship despite torture, crusaded against US military bases on Philippine soil, and campaigned to terminate the RP-US Balikatan war games in the South.

"Ka Dan is the original rebel soldier," said Bagong Alyansang Makabayan secretary general Renato Reyes Jr.

"Trillanes and other rebel soldiers

BEFORE/A10



PNP probe clears Hanjin, 2 mayors; media blamed

By Alcuin Papa
Inquirer
and Ma. Cecilia Rodriguez
Inquirer Mindanao

THE WAY IT HAS TURNED OUT, it was much ado about nothing.

Only days after Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno announced that a "furious" President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered an inquiry into accusations of bribery and extortion between the mayors of Tagoloan and Villanueva towns

PNP PROBE/A10

Clinton in must-win fight; Obama needs strong showing

WASHINGTON—BARACK OBAMA headed into twin primaries on Tuesday in North Carolina and Indiana, looking for a strong showing that would bring him closer to clinching the Democratic presidential nomination and deal a mortal blow to Hillary Rodham Clinton's embattled candidacy.

Dual victories by Obama would all but knock Clinton out of the race. Polls, however, have found a small edge for the New York senator in Indiana. Obama remains the favorite in North Carolina, though his lead has shrunk.

Altogether, 187 delegates are at stake in the two states, nearly half the pledged delegates left with only eight primaries to go before voting ends in a month. But party rules make it difficult for one candidate to win many more delegates than the other.

There was little if any expectation that Tuesday's primaries would settle the big, messy picture. Both Clinton and Obama predicted they would still be campaigning in June.

Clinton needs to win at least Indiana to remain viable in the

CLINTON/A10

WEATHER FORECAST

[illegible]

Second FRONT PAGE

EZ2 · SIX DIGIT · SUERTRES · 6/42 LUZON/VIS-MIN

P17,778,000.60

Thailand drops rice cartel idea

Gov't to seek other ways to buy rice, says agri chief

By Christine O. Avendaño

[illegible]

President's assurance

[illegible]

Purchasing flexibility

[illegible]

Thai prices fall following failure of RP rice tender

BANGKOK—THAILAND has dropped plans to create a Southeast Asian rice cartel that would have fixed the price of the skyrocketing commodity in the wake of food security concerns, the country's foreign minister said Tuesday.

[illegible]

Concern for all

[illegible]

Prices fall

[illegible]

SAVE THE CHILDREN REPORT

RP is No. 1 in child health among poor nations

DOH initiatives successful

But progress favors the rich

Still a long way to go

Reuters, AP

Senate still trying to get Neri to talk

By Leila B. Salaverria

Checkmated

No power

What's holding cheap meds bill? Wary senators wonder



Lawyers of rights victims want to settle with gov't

By TJ Burgonio

Claimants

Favorable ruling!

Human rights



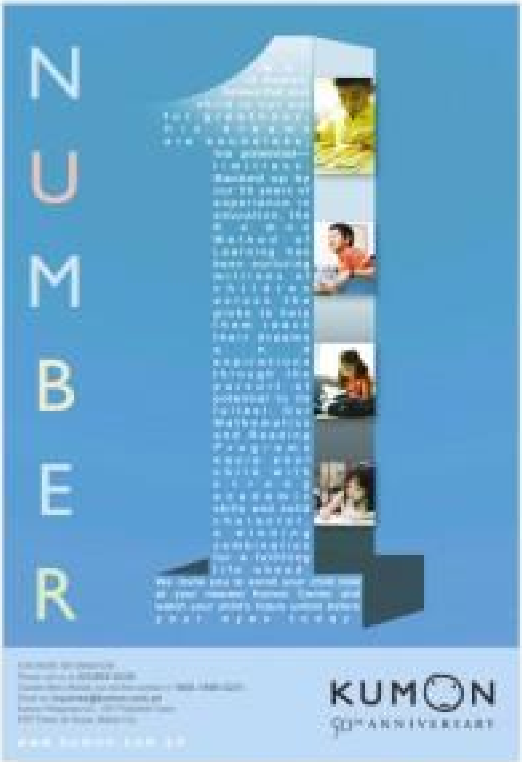


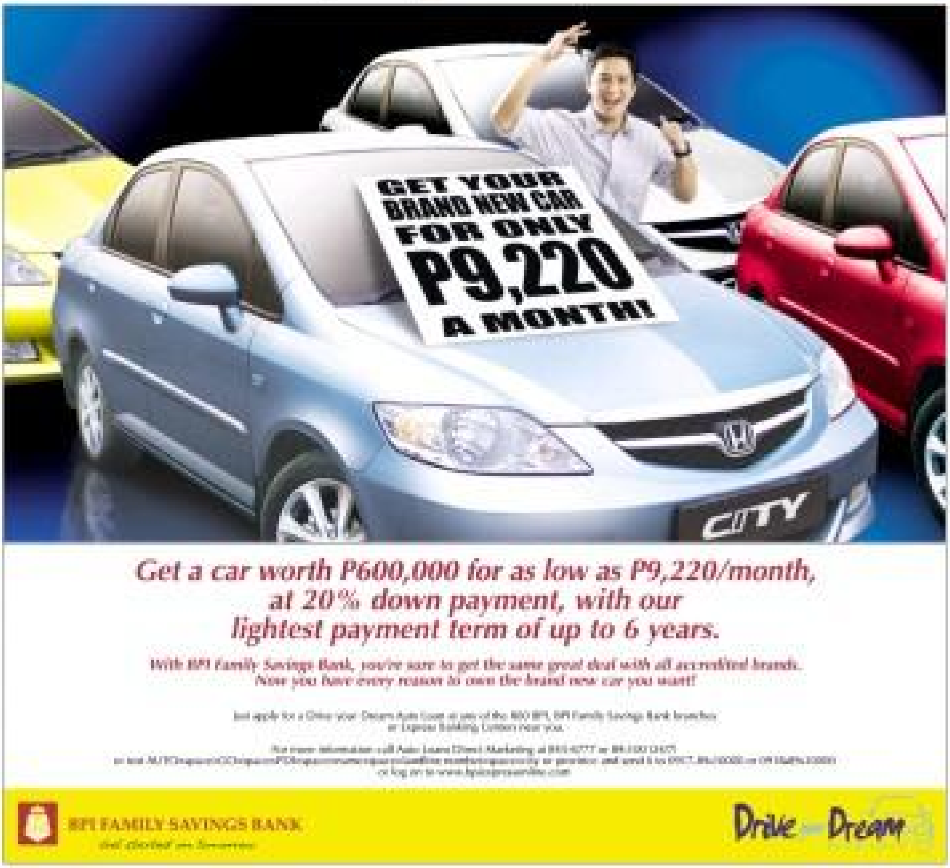
THE DAILY GOSPEL



Rebel soldiers turn new leaf







Pag-asa airstrip eroding, but rehab hopes still high



PAG-ASA island from the air with the eroding airstrip and the grounded Navy supply ship in sight.

By Tarra Quismundo

FOR WANT OF A TRANSPORT SHIP, the runway on Pag-asa island in the Philippine-claimed Spratlys chain remains in a state of serious disrepair.

How to get the construction materials stockpiled in the Philippine Air Force bases in Puerto Princesa City and Sangley Point, Cavite, to Pag-asa has held up the much-delayed rehabilitation of Rancudo runway, according to PAF commander Lt. Gen. Pedrito Cadungog.

Following a three-hour visit to the island on Friday, Cadungog said, "Repairing it, replacing it is not a problem. Even if the money is there, the problem is transporting the materials. Bringing it to the island is the hard part."

After flooding on the airstrip began posing a hazard to the PAF's planes back in 2004, the Armed Forces of the Philippines laid out a plan to repair the runway.

But a Philippine Navy ship ferrying construction materials in December 2004 ran aground a few meters from shore, breaching in shallow waters while it was being offloaded.

The use of Navy ships was halted and the listing vessel remains where it ran aground.

More recently, the AFP entered into a barging contract with a private hauling company to transport the P31 million worth of repair materials to the island, but the firm failed to make good on the deal, PAF officials said.

Jetty will do it

Early this year, the military proposed that a jetty be constructed at the runway's west end to serve as a sturdy unloading platform for ships, but work has yet to begin.

Host to the C-130 Hercules, N22 C Nomad and Huey Islander on resupply, survey and transport missions, the 1,200-meter Rancudo runway built 33 years ago is slowly washing away into the South China Sea.

Both ends and sides of the runway are damaged. Part of the northwest portion is perennially flooded.

Cadungog, however, said the runway could still withstand takeoffs and landings even in its present state.

"In reality, in that condition, kaya pa (it can take it). But we hope we can set aside funds for upgrading," he said.

He estimated the total restoration of the runway would cost P200 million, which would have to come from the military's budget.

Pag-asa, one of nine islands in the Spratlys chain being claimed by the Philippines, is home to about 50 soldiers and a modest community of civilians.

China, Taiwan, Malaysia and Vietnam have also staked claims to the resource-rich island group but have agreed to respect patrol and overflight rights of claimant countries, their diplomatic, military and civilian installations on the parts of the Spratlys they are claiming.

Repairs on the islands they occupy are allowed Spratlys claimant countries under an existing code of conduct, Cadungog said, adding that only new construction was prohibited.



PAL EXPRESS basks in a festive welcome at the Caticlan airport, gateway to Boracay.

PAL joins rush to Boracay with budget brand airline

By Tarra Quismundo

CATICLAN, AKLAN—THE AIRPORT in this gateway to Boracay's world-famous beaches may already be crowded, but flag carrier Philippine Airlines (PAL) is vying for space for its budget brand to service the busy island route.

PAL launched its low-cost service PAL Express here Monday morning, a rebranding of its sister airline Air Philippines' Island Holidays Boracay service. Airline officials said the new service will give travelers PAL's brand of safety and service at a lower cost.

The budget-line brand pits the flag carrier head-to-head with other Boracay players including South East Asian Airlines, Asian Spirit and Cebu Pacific Air.

PAL Express will fly to Caticlan from Manila 12 times daily, replacing Air Philippines' Boracay service which started in December 2007.

Calling the new service a milestone, PAL president Jaime Bautista said in a press conference here: "This is the first time in PAL's 67-year history that we are launching a sub-brand."

Achievable

The flag carrier, whose domestic operations had only serviced major Philippine destinations where its wide-bodied aircraft could land, initially thought it was impossible to fly to the tourist destination because of its congested airport and short runway, said Bautista.

"But after working with our departments—safety, security, flight operations, technical, we agreed that flying to Caticlan with PAL safety standards is achievable," Bautista said.

To fit into Caticlan's 950-meter runway, PAL Express will be using turbo-prop planes—50-seater Bombardier Q-300s and 76-seater Q-400s to ferry passengers to the island.

It marks the return of turbo-prop planes to the PAL fleet after 10 years.

The airstrip already receives at least 30 flights a day on peak season, the local tourist information desk said.

PAL Express is also expected to begin Cebu-Caticlan service on May 19, and then expand to other island routes including Puerto Princesa and Busuanga in Palawan, then Bohol, Tacloban, Butuan and Surigao.

Asked whether the Caticlan market is already saturated with PAL's entry, Bautista said demand for seats is expected to rise with new developments in Boracay, which are expected to increase the island's room capacity for vacationers.

Bishops press Palace for extension of CARP

By Jeannette I. Andrade

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE of the Philippines (CBCP) will embark on a pilgrimage to Malacañang today hoping to get the President's support for the extension and reform of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP).

At the Bishops-Legislators Caucus at the Agrarian Reform Summit of Stakeholders held yesterday at the Pope Pius XII Catholic Center in Manila, CBCP president Archbishop Angel Lagdameo said there is hope in both Houses of Congress to pass a law extending and introducing reforms to the CARP.

He explained why some lawmakers were against the passage of the law: "Their lands will be affected by the CARP extension."

Lagdameo said the vision of CARP advocates, particularly in the Church, was to help the farmers. "Farmers are the heart and soul of our agricultural development."

He also said that the pursuit of CARP "can be really revolutionary... We can improve (the farmers') lives out of a few ourselves."

At the conclusion of the summit, representatives from the Church, Congress, government agencies, farmers groups, businessmen and the academe, signed a statement that would be presented today to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Cagayan de Oro Archbishop Antonio Ledesma told reporters that several bishops, including Tuguegarao Archbishop Diosdado Talamayan and Gumaca Bishop Buenaventura Famadico, would be going to Malacañang today to present the summit statement.

The statement contains measures that seek to effectively complete land acquisition and distribution under CARP.

Some of the measures include the provision of a bigger budget to ensure CARP completion in five to seven years, the removal of non-distributive schemes from CARP in favor of direct and physical distribution of lands, a bigger budget for support services, the provision of greater access to credit for beneficiaries and gender-responsive support services to recognize and enforce the right of rural women to own and control land.

There will also be exclusive Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) jurisdiction over agrarian reform cases, CARP expansion and strengthening, the creation of a congressional oversight committee to monitor the CARP implementation and the provision of stronger sanctions for the non-implementation of, and non-compliance with the law.

Internet watched for OR videos

By Jeannette I. Andrade

LEARNING ITS LESSON FROM THE rectal surgery video scandal, the Department of Health is keeping a close watch on images of medical procedures posted on the Internet.

This time, the DOH has set its sights on Multiply.com where pictures of a Pap smear witnessed by several nursing students were recently posted.

Multiply.com is a social networking site which allows users to share photographs, videos and music.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III sent a letter dated April 29, to the president of Multiply.com, with a request "not to publish, post, upload, distribute, or disseminate materials of this nature."

He said footages or pictures of medical procedures might have been taken and posted without the patient's consent.

"While we give prime importance to the sharing of information and transparency of transactions particularly in governance, the posting of videos/images on medical procedures done on patients obviously violates the patient's right to privacy and confidentiality," Duque said in his letter.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) also directed its regional directors, as well as the presidents and heads of public and private higher education institutions offering health-related programs, to advise their students not to use video cameras, as well as cellular phones with cameras while undertaking related learning experience (RLE) in clinical classes.

CHEd chair Romulo Neri, in his memorandum dated April 24, cited a previous circular, saying that "all activities concerning the care/practice of RLE of nursing students for the nursing program as well as the practicum for students of other health-related programs are properly supervised and monitored."

The order was a result of the controversial rectal surgery to remove a canister from a male patient in a Cebu hospital whose video was uploaded on YouTube by one of the nursing students present during the operation.

World oil nears record high of $121 per barrel

Bulls in control

Momentum to market

Dollar weakens vs euro

Trouble in Nigeria

Iran factor

Bush visit

High inflation means hard times

IN THE KNOW

Largest single item

Like hidden tax

Soaring prices push inflation rate to 8.3%

Far above BSP forecast

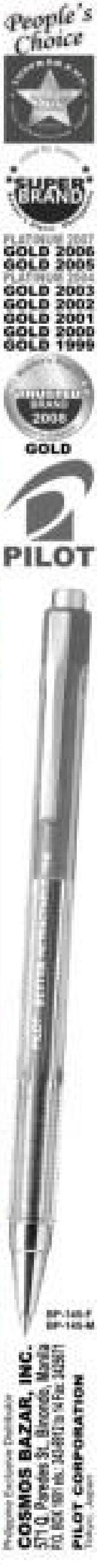
Slowdown

Rate hike seen

Malaysian foreign minister arrives

Hanjin must pay contractor, SC rules





Palace: Lopez family could lose Meralco

Meralco ownership up to shareholders to decide

Dummy stockholders

Caution must prevail

Global review

Soliciting proxies

Pangilinan urges caution

Nothing against ABS-CBN

PNP probe clears Hanjin, 2 mayors; media blamed

'Misconstrued, misquoted'

To embarrass GMA

'Initial' update

Political families

Dominant party

Before Trillanes was Vizmanos, the 'original rebel soldier'



"THE ORIGINAL REBEL SOLDIER"

Far-reaching change

Marcos' 'private army'

Activist and author

Grandkids



NOGRALES: House energy committee to investigate.



ARROYO: Whoever brings down rates is OK with me.



AQUINO: He's the Palace's attack head.

Congress to investigate Meralco takeover plan

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

SEN. MIRIAM DEFENSOR-SANTIAGO SAID yesterday the Senate would hold a joint probe with the House of Representatives on the government's plan to take over Manila Electric Co. to determine if it would lead to President Macapagal-Arroyo's goal of reducing electricity bills.

"We really have to investigate Meralco because our power rates are just too high and it is raking in a lot of profits," said Santiago in an interview with reporters.

Government Service Insurance System Chair Winston Garcia has consolidated the government financial institutions' shareholdings in Meralco in order to vote between five and six directors into Meralco's 11-member board, he told the Inquirer on Monday.

Garcia has been vocal in seeking a change in the Lopez management claiming that as a shareholder, GSIS had the right to demand transparency and good governance in the company and that GSIS' 1.5 million members were mostly Meralco consumers and were entitled to seek a fair charge in their bills.

Palace "attack head"

But Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III has questioned the motives of Garcia in launching an attack against the Lopezes whose media empire, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp., has been critical of the Arroyo administration.

"I am just wondering by what personality does Winston Garcia claim to represent all GSIS members. Where is the mandate? If he questioned it as a private citizen, that would have fallen within his rights. His actions give one the impression that he is the attack head of Malacañang," said Aquino.

Still, Santiago said that the Senate was compelled to look into the state takeover of Meralco as requested by Malacañang.

Since Speaker Prospero Nograles has ordered Rep. Juan Miguel Arroyo, chair of the House committee on energy, to look into potential changes in the ownership of Meralco, Santiago said she would ask her counterpart in the House to hold the probe jointly possibly this Friday to avoid any redundancy.

Santiago said that the joint congressional probe should answer why Meralco power rates were so high



SANTIAGO: It's raking in lots of profits.

and who was responsible for this.

RP rates highest in Asia

"The biggest question here is why our country has the highest electricity rates in Asia even after we had already sold part of Napocor (National Power Corp.) and we are planning to sell the remaining government stake," said Santiago.

"It is true that Napocor is lowering the power rates it selling to Meralco, why are we not feeling any reduction in our Meralco bills? We can see a disconnect in the process. And why are we being asked to pay for their pilfered electricity or what they call system losses, why are we being asked to pay for those where we have not benefited from them?"

The Supreme Court had ruled twice that Meralco had been overcharging consumers and that Meralco had been forced to refund its consumers, said Santiago who noted that the Joint Congressional Power Commission's role was to ensure that electricity rates were set as low as possible.

She also said the Meralco probe were timely considering that Congress was studying several amendments to the Energy Power Reform Industry Act.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Dismal diplomacy

EDITORIAL



Lifting VAT on oil will cut price by P5/liter

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

The short and long

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Mekong rice conspiracy

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



Scholar

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan



A fresh start for China and Japan?

WORLD VIEW

Wenran Jiang



Clothes for Philippine weather

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Housing projects on mountain tops and slopes

LETTERS

Population control is inevitable

GMA's hand sought in rehabilitation of national road near Pampanga

Lawyers, judges can justify anything

MERALCO EMPLOYEES' STAND

May 7, 2008

To all our valued Customers, Stockholders and Partners:

We, the Officers, Managers, Supervisors and Rank-&-File employees of the Manila Electric Company, wish to express our confidence and unwavering support to our present Management Team, led by our President and COO, Mr. Jesus P. Francisco and our Chairman and CEO, Mr. Manuel M. Lopez.

We take exception to the baseless accusations by parties interested in taking over Meralco and/or pushing their personal agenda without concern for customer service and the public responsibility of a utility company like Meralco.

We are a highly regulated Company where almost every policy and every move are governed by a set of rules and regulations and monitored closely by the Department of Energy and the Energy Regulatory Commission.

Our financial statements, reports and other official documents are available for any of our stockholders to scrutinize at our offices.

Our Corporate Governance policies and practices have received awards and are recognized as benchmarks among publicly listed companies.

Our Company follows strictly the Corporation Code and adheres to all the principles of ethical and responsible management.

We invite you all to study and understand the electric power industry to better understand where the increases in the electric bill really come from and not get confused and misled by various allegations and misconceptions.

Almost 80% of the cost of electricity paid by customers is passed to generation and transmission. Of the remaining 20%, only 13-4% goes to Meralco since the rest goes to taxes and other charges paid to the government.

Meralco's annual productivity increase, which is the fundamental measure of efficiency, increases by no less than 8% annually.

The performance indicators, especially the level of customer service of the Company, are internationally comparable with even world class utilities, with the same distribution infrastructure.

All the major technical organizations of our Company are ISO Certified, for its processes, its technical standards, and its people.

All employees adhere to a competency-based selection, reward and development process making possible an excellent and continuously improving employee profile.

We vehemently reject and strongly object to any attempt by any group to take over the management of your Company, especially this latest one using the media and unfounded controversies to mislead the public. Their irresponsible actions just create trouble with all their confusing and confused requests and accusations.

These actions are counter productive and have an overall negative effect on the share prices, customer service, and even us, your employees, as they take some of us away from our real work.

We urge you all to take a look at the levels of service, management style and efficiencies of the institutions these people are connected to and see for yourself the kind of management they know and practice.

Most of us are also owners of the company we work for through our employee stock ownership plan. Like you, we are most interested and are therefore working very hard to make this Company succeed.

We are also customers of Meralco who pay the same electric bills every month and subject to the same customer rules and policies just like any other customer.

We write this open letter as a group of responsible and committed workers, who as a Company have been serving all of you for the past 100 years.

We wish to continue serving you with even more dedication and higher quality of service.

With our knowledge of and full Malasakit for the Company and its operations, we reject in the strongest terms any attempt by any individual or any group to take over the management of the Company in whatever form such will take.



SIGNED BY MAJORITY OF THE EMPLOYEES, SUPERVISORS AND OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY

Below are some of the 6000 concerned Meralco employees



Cyclone: 10 times more powerful than atom bomb

Blows counter-clockwise

Hurricane's eye

22,000 dead in Burma; 41,000 more are missing

Cliff-high waves

Seeking int'l help



VIEW FROM THE TOP

Destruction of mangroves

List of major storms

'The army came like ants last time, now I don't see any'

Nowhere to live

Flying roofs

No bath for 3 days

Monks clean the streets

Worst in 50 years

Clinton in must-win fight; Obama needs strong showing

Pain at the gas pump

Chipping away at Obama's lead

Ready to take on oil firms

Layoffs, plant closings

Superdelegates key to nomination

Main hope

16-month-old battle

Across the NATION

NEWSBRIEFS

JOLO, SULU

Mayor's house shot at; 2 dead, 6 wounded

[illegible]

CAPIZ

Talahong fest features seafood

[illegible]

COTABATO CITY

'Rido' clash kills 1 person

[illegible]

DAVAO CITY

Antiterror group to stay, says Duterte

[illegible]

CABANATUAN CITY

Barangay chief, cop killed in Ecija

[illegible]

Fallout between Palawan execs, Palace emerging over Spratlys

PUERTO PRINCESA City—Local officials of Palawan, known for traditionally toeing administration policy, have broken ranks with the Arroyo administration over its implicit preference to treat the Kalayaan Group of Islands as outside the Philippine baselines.

[illegible]



A COUPLE walks in waters in Pagasa Island. [illegible]

Gov't urged: Pay closer attention to root crops

[illegible]



FARMS, such as this one in the Ifugao Rice Terraces, will have to supply more food in a world getting hungrier.

Chinese firm takes control of Camarines Sur mine area

[illegible]

Bishop keeps hopes alive on peace with Moro rebs

[illegible]

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Missing Aling Lucing, the 'Sisig Queen'



CUNANAN

'Imbayah' calls for protection of rice terraces



Brave new world in museum work unfolds in Baguio

'This project learns from the community and tells its people's diverse stories of interaction'

Mayor irate as Napocor fells city mangroves



A MANGROVE tree

New Solcom chief says he'll turn NPAs 'irrelevant' soon

W. Visayas employers take tough stand vs wage hikes

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

Difficult to monitor



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

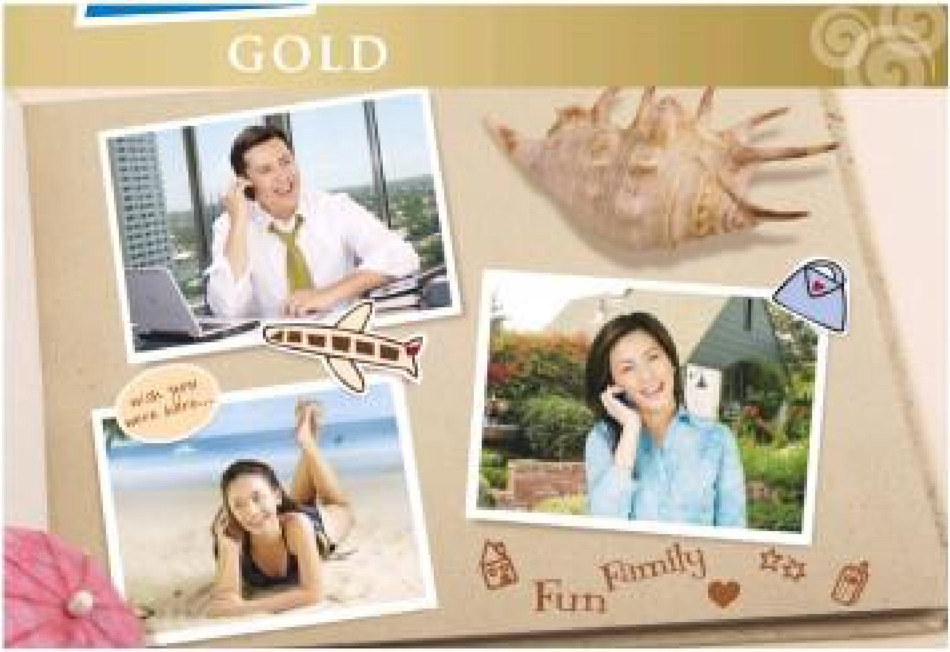
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE

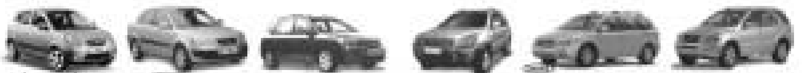
Gov't declares CamSur electrification complete

NPA guerrillas release 2 captive soldiers

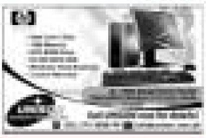
'After the agonies their families suffered, they can join them...'

NEWS





Aplus METRO
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil





COLORFUL COUPLE A couple who joined the Flores de Mayo held recently at the Rajah Sulayman Park in Malate, Manila display their color-coordinated outfits.

Dike collapse causes flooding in Malabon

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THREE BARANGAYS IN MAlabon City were submerged in at least three feet of water after part of the mega dike being built by the Department of Public Works and Highways collapsed at around 9:30 a.m. yesterday.

Bong Padua, the city government's spokesperson, said no one was hurt in the incident which affected some 1,000 families in Barangays Niugan, Tonsuya and Catmon.

He added that the reason for the collapse of a 12-meter long portion of the dike near ... Street in Tabing Ilog was not immediately known.

Based on the report of ..., the head of Malabon City's engineering office, the incident happened at high tide, Padua added.

He said residents of Barangay Niugan were the most affected by the incident.

The DPWH is in charge of the P1 billion Camanava (Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela) flood control project which is expected to address the perennial problem of flooding in the four cities in the northern part of Metro Manila and parts of Bulacan province.

Construction of the mega dike was supposed to be completed last June, but delays have prompted the DPWH to push the targeted completion date to September this year.

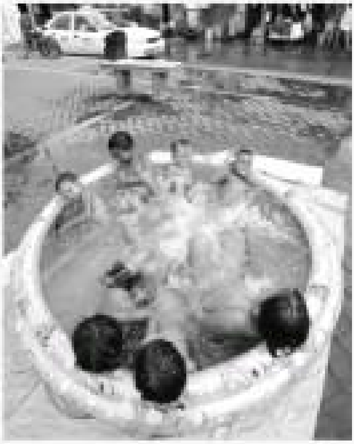
During a recent visit to Malabon, President Macapagal-Arroyo promised residents that the project would be completed soon.

Padua said yesterday's incident scared even residents who have grown accustomed to the floods in their area.

4 hurt as van flips over on Pasay City boulevard

Lost control





COOL WATER

Car showroom in Manila yields second-hand vehicles

Verification



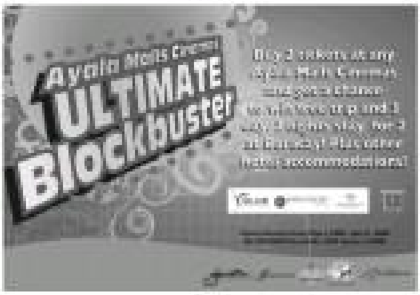
MetroBriefs

2 cops face robbery raps

Policeman dies of head injuries

Dike collapse causes flooding . . .







Did you know

Cops raid 2 shops allegedly used as cybersex dens in QC

By Marlon Ramos



NOT WORTH IT

Halfway homes for Manila's vagrants

By Tina G. Santos

2 new lanes for Taguig road coming up

By Julie M. Aurelio

Iran rejects tougher atom checks, citing hypocrisy

Climate change could hit tropical wildlife hardest



BIRD FLU OUTBREAK

Minnesota bridge victims get $38-M compensation package



HUANG



CHOU

2 Taiwan ministers resign over embezzlement scandal

Saddam feared getting 'VD' from his US guards

Study links child's autism, parents' mental illness

China OKs future talks on Tibet

US withdraws 3,500 troops from Iraq



Indonesia mulls temporarily pulling out of Opec

The WORLD



China virus outbreak downs more than 11,900 children

BEIJING—MORE THAN 11,900 CHILDREN HAVE been reported sick with hand, foot and mouth disease in China, and at least 26 of those cases have died, a state news agency said.

China experts identify gene for yield, height in rice



Britain's Prince Harry gets military service medal for Afghan stint

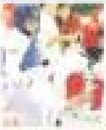


Food riots worsen in Somali capital

Austrian father in incest case planned dungeon 6 years in advance, say police

WHAT'S INSIDE

Olympian Rivero takes silver in China /A33



SPORTS

Editor Rodolfo S. Melendres   Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa

93 days to the 29th Summer Olympics

RP Youth five bags Seaba title

By Jasmine W. Payo



MEMBERS of the Nokia RP Youth squad give team manager ... the victory ride.

Amazing Barako seek solo lead vs Realtors



ADAM Parada (left) continues to show consistency for the Barako.





Asia-Pacific jungolf: Thai, Indian bets show way



Guevarra shocks Alcano in Villar Cup



MANDA 10-BALL

Gabica, Japan ace dodge axe

Archers seek lead vs Warriors



Parting words for Pacman and other heroes

BARE EYE

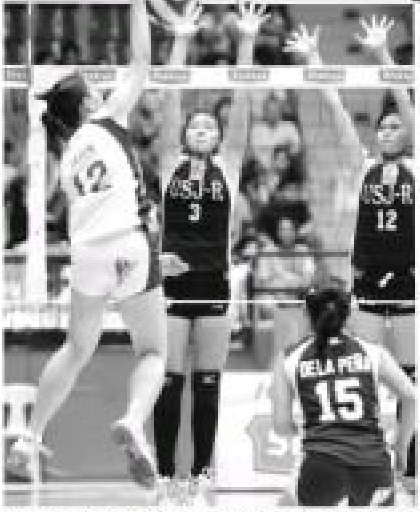
Recah Trinidad



SPORTSWATCH

'Bullang' derby at MC today

GCAP 6-cocker resumes



Lady Eagles, FEU tossers grab lead

Sparks vs Coffee Kings for last semis berth

Arcilla, top Cebu tennis seeds make next round



ARCILLA

RP seniors: Iggy favored

Olympian Rivero takes silver in China



RIVERO

Book on Bata Reyes in the works

CLEAN LIVING



Second RP Open chess on; So among favorites

Staglets, Squires crush foes

SPORTS

HORNETS 2, SPURS 0

Defending champions on brink



Tim Duncan and the San Antonio Spurs are heading home mired in a 0-2 hole.

Pistons conquer Magic, grab 2-0 lead

Bryant on MVP: 'Honored and thankful'



CHRIS Paul comes through with MVP-worthy numbers.

BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saludar sibs power Davao charge

LGUs, patrons throw support behind Liga Pilipinas hoops

Chelsea takes Premiership race to final day



CHELSEA'S Florent Malouda (second from right) shoots past Newcastle United goalkeeper Steve Harper during their game.

BUSINESS



PLDT posts 3-month net profit of ₱10.4B

Subscriber base breached 32M in April

PHILIPPINE LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CO. (PLDT) YESTERday reported a 21-percent jump in unaudited consolidated net profit for the first quarter of 2008 to P10.4 billion from P8.6 billion in the same period last year.

CURRENCIES

STOCK MARKET

Stocks close lower on inflation news

IN THIS ISSUE



Treasury rejects all bids for 7-year T-bonds



CDC sets 3rd bidding for Mimosa property

Two other Clark assets in the pipeline

What food crisis?

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES





PLDT posts 3-month net . . .

Stocks close lower . . .


Your Ultimate Sourcing and
Trading Destination at
Asia's Renowned 4-in-1 Tradeshow
4 - 6 June 2008
Hong Kong Convention
and Exhibition Centre
Hurry Up to Pre-register before 23 May 2008 @


We can help you.
JOR


"We only work with experts to provide
great customer service".
ePLDT


one of the prizes
Get a chance to win any of the lifestyle prize bundles for your home.
MetroHome
High Life High Five
Metrobank
You're in good hands.
BancNet
www.metrobank.com.ph

Manila Water profit up 22% in first quarter

System losses down to 22.9%

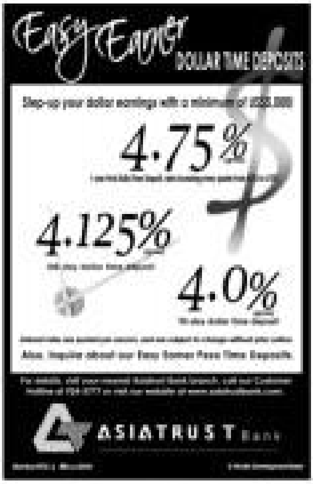
By Amy R. Remo

MANILA WATER CO. YESTERday reported a 22-percent jump in its first-quarter net income to P625 million compared to the year-ago level.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, Manila Water said the increase "was largely due to its capital investments of P24 billion over the past 10 years," which led to significant improvements in billed volume and operating efficiencies.

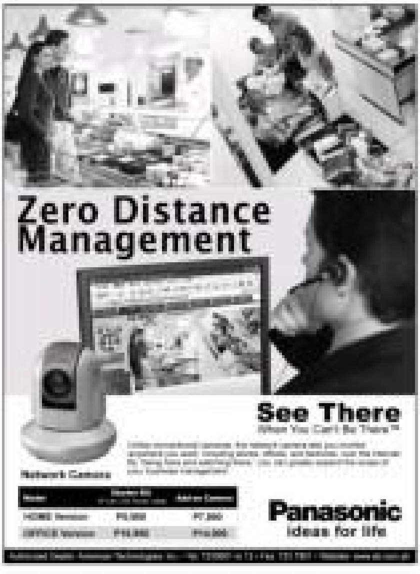
[illegible]





Forex loss pulls down Belle profit

[illegible]



AEV net income up 9% at P1.18B

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

Semirara raising production this year

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

COAL PRODUCER SEMIRARA MINING Corp. is spending P1.3 billion this year to raise its production of coal, as it remains upbeat on both the domestic and export markets for coal, Semirara vice chair and chief executive officer Isidro Consunji said.

After the company's stockholders' meeting yesterday, officials said Semirara was planning to expand its coal production by 500,000 metric tons to 4.5 million MT this year, from 4 million MT last year.

Consunji said Semirara intended to purchase equipment such as trucks and excavators used for coal production.

In its 2007 financial report, Semirara said its successful diversification to export markets, such as South China, India and Hong Kong, called for the upgrading of plan

SEMIRARA, B4







RIVIERA GOLF CLUB, INC.
BY-PASS ROAD, SILANG, CAVITE

NOTICE OF SALE OF DELINQUENT RGCI SHARES AT AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE RIVIERA GOLF CLUB, INC. (RGCI) WILL SELL THE FOLLOWING DELINQUENT SHARES AT A PUBLIC AUCTION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE BY-LAWS, FOR NON-PAYMENT OF THE MONTHLY DUES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS:

A-0120	A-0622	A-1072	A-1719	A-0020	A-0479	A-0146	A-1020
A-0023	A-1100	A-0284	A-0184	A-0489	A-1502	A-1014	A-0808
A-1020	A-1430	A-1373	A-1410	A-1009	A-0083	A-1481	A-0835
A-0266	A-0113	A-1342	A-0581	A-0087	A-1789	A-0791	A-1191
A-1251	A-0774	A-1548	A-1226	A-0886	A-0767	A-1756	A-0787
A-1243	A-0758	A-1081	A-1700	A-1182	A-1736	A-0814	A-1038
A-0373	A-0829	A-1085	A-0017	A-0373	A-1874	A-1766	A-0809
B-0213	B-0079	B-0161	B-1080	B-0052	B-0038	B-0060	B-0289
B-0263	C-0019	C-0230	C-0331	C-0143			

THE AUCTION DATE IS SET ON MAY 8, 2008 AT 10:00 O'CLOCK A.M., AT THE TEE PAVILION, RIVIERA GOLF CLUB, INC., SILANG, CAVITE. ALL INTERESTED PARTIES MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE BIDDING.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

(Sgd.) ATTY. ROLANDO G. BORJA
CORPORATE SECRETARY

Power prices seen to go down

WESM exec says more generation facilities now online



SOUND MINING PRACTICES

RP decides to raise IMF contribution by P9B

DA seeks closer ties with LGUs to promote rice plan

Rising oil rates stall recovery of Asia stocks

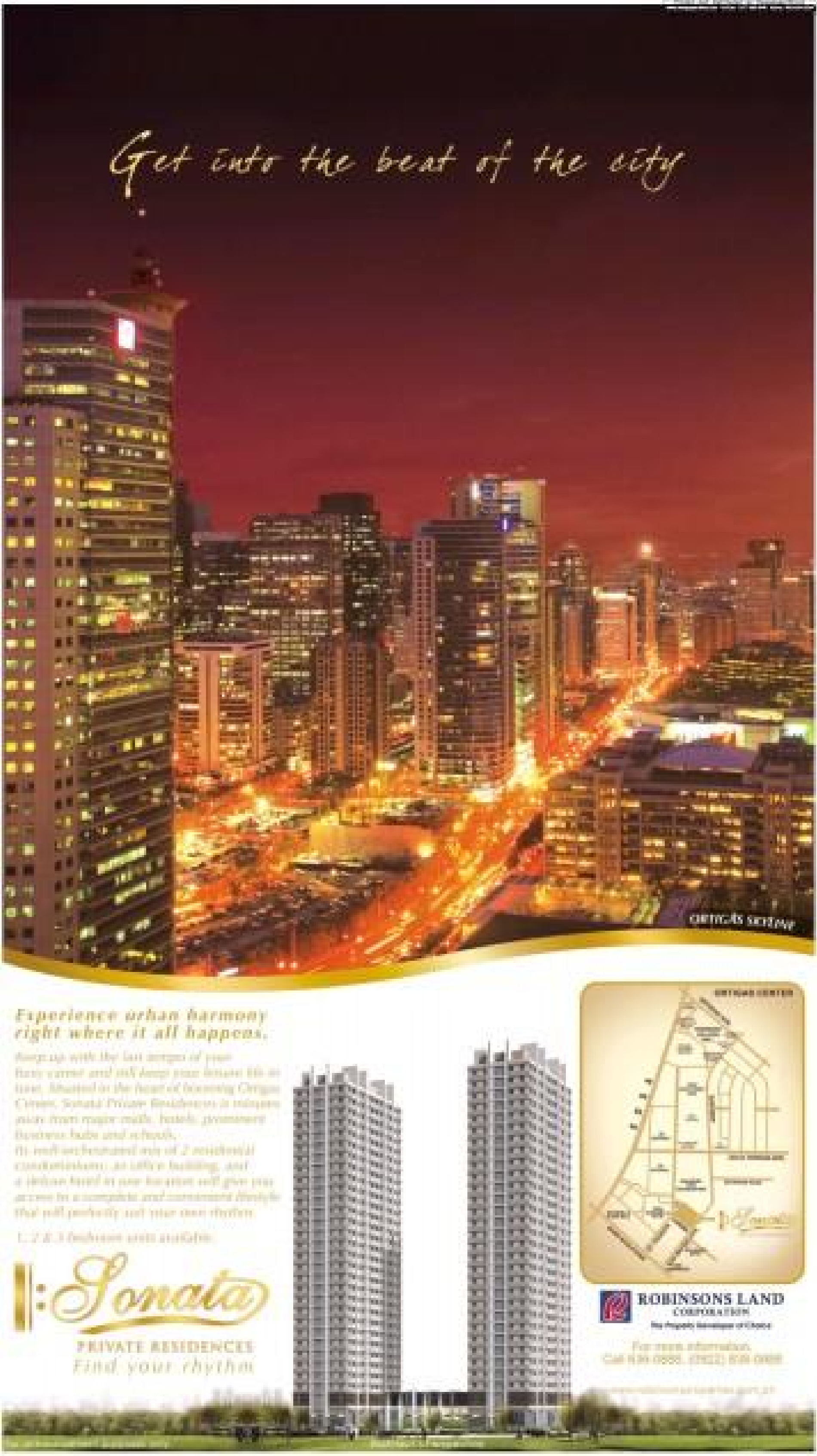


Yahoo said to be open to further talks with Microsoft

Subprime woes prompt UBS to cut 5,500 jobs

Bernanke warns of dangers posed by surging foreclosures

Semirara raising ...


Get into the beat of the city
ORTIGAS SKYLINE
Experience urban harmony right where it all happens.
Sonata
PRIVATE RESIDENCES
Find your rhythm
ROBINSONS LAND
CORPORATION
For more information,

MOTORING



'Crunch time' brings out best, worst driving habits

The simpler Strada

MY DRIFT





Peeling back all the extras is one way to figure out just how good a product is

Cool bikes, heart-pounding stunts take centerstage in motorcycle convention





GM finds new ways to fuel cars





Diversity

Global commitment

GM's Volt

Dreaming with Chery in Beijing

ON THE ROAD



Aida Sevilla-Mendoza



Bigger





Safety

Dream

MotorScope



Toyota Camry and Vios bag C! Awards

NLEX maintains safe air quality standards

Business

Volume of coconut product exports surged 182% in Jan., PCA says

RP to show off dive spots

Globe net income up 32% as of March

Q1 revenues down slightly to P15.5B

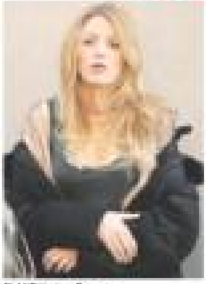
2bU LIFESTYLE
Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan

BLAIR'S back. Leighton Meester is Blair Waldorf



More gossip on 'Gossip Girl'

Juicy nuggets you can chew on while waiting for Season 2



BLAKE Lively as Serena

By Pam Pastor

"GOSSIP GIRL" SURE HAS gone a long way from being a movie pitch that was rejected by Lindsay Lohan. Books on the series continue to come out, but it is the book-taler that has captivated people.

The TV show's first season was a huge hit, and Season 2 just started airing in the US late last month.

Cast members have been spotted in a number of New York city locations, filming scenes for the second season, to the delight of [illegible] bloggers who have been documenting the show's ins and outs, not unlike Gossip Girl herself.

Pinoy fans might have to wait a little longer for Season 2 (unless you have succumbed to the temptation of evil downloading!). In the meantime, here are some juicy Gossip Girl nuggets you can chew on:

Beautiful, undoubtedly. Leighton Meester, Ed Westwick, Blake Lively, Chace Crawford, Penn Badgley, Jessica Szohr, Taylor Momsen made it to People's Most Beautiful list this year. And FHM Magazine named Blake Lively as No. 9 on its list of 100 sexiest women.

Lily talked too much. There have been speculations online about a gay Gossip Girl character—and they turned out to be more than just speculation.

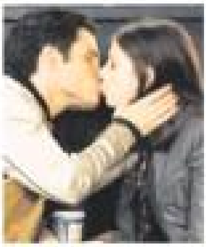
Kelly Rutherford, the actress who plays Serena's mom, Lily, said too much in a recent magazine interview. She slipped during a session with US Weekly and told them it's her son Eric who will be coming out of the closet on the show.

Frenemy alert. Watch out for Georgina Sparks. This scheming character (played by "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"'s Michelle Trachtenberg) will be wreaking havoc on the lives of Serena and her friends, revealing a secret Serena has been hiding.

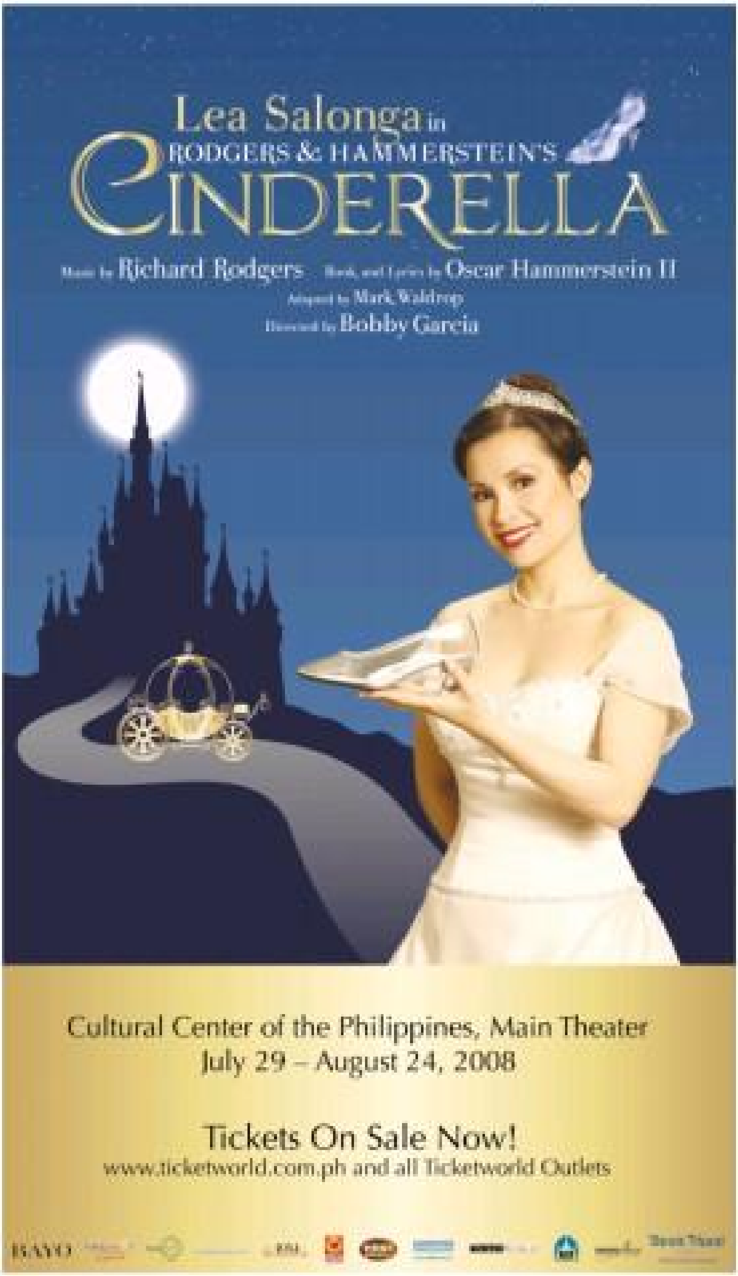
A sex scandal? Serena's secret is something a lot of fans have been wondering about. A clip that circulated before last Monday's episode seemed to point toward the possibility of a sex video. By the time this article is out, we will know for sure.

Nate and Bruce's daughter? New York Magazine recently broke the news that Chace Crawford, who plays Nate, and Rumer Willis (yes, the daughter of Bruce and Demi) have been spotted together around the city a number of times.

Who will die? There's a spoiler circulating that a Gossip Girl character will overdose in the second to the last episode of this season.



NEW GIRL. Michelle Trachtenberg plays Serena's frenemy Georgina Sparks.





PACIFIC Blue gift set includes purse, pen and leather tag/pouch

Gifts for mom

SHOW MOM HOW MUCH you love her with a specially selected gift from the SM Department Store. Let her sparkle with dazzling pieces of fashion jewelry which can snag her style a notch higher on Mother's Day or any other day of the year.

You can also show Mom how much you appreciate all the times she has devoted to you with the gift of time. Take time from your schedule to be with her, plus, you can also give her a stylish watch to [illegible] the pain.



AZZARO Blue Charm perfume

Does your mom love fragrances? Send your message in a bottle and make Mom feel youthful and carefree with a fragrance that will appeal to her every ability.

Lastly, you can make Mom smile with funky gifts from the heart, like whimsical bag charms and gypsy-inspired bracelets that will kindle the fun free spirit in her.

Make Mother's Day truly special with 1,001 and more bright and beautiful gifts from the SM Department Store.



ANTIQUE-LOOKING aquamarine charm bracelet



SWAROVSKI-STUDDED flower brooch with pearl accent

8 adventures you can have with Mom

Text by Ruby de Mira [illegible]
2bU Contributor

Photos by Gill Ricario [illegible]



1 Instead of having the usual Mother's Day lunch or dinner, pretend it's your Mom's birthday too. TGI Friday's treats birthday honorees to a cake and hearty singing by the team staff. Get one of the Bibs Bibs Bibs Menu on May 11 and get a special [illegible] for Mom.



2 Take your Mom out dancing! Groove to retro music as you reminisce to the band [illegible] plays '70s and '80s music every Friday at Chef & Brewer Café and Restaurant, located at [illegible] Tower, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center.



3 Stretch those muscles and bundle up. You don't need to go far for ice skating. The Ice Skating Rink at Megamall is the perfect getaway from the summer heat, and it's a fun workout for Mom.



4 If you think you and your Mom sound good together, why not record your very own album? Each Karaoke King booth is a mini-recording studio where you can record the songs you want. The finished product can be a CD or tape. Karaoke King booths are located in most malls in Metro Manila.



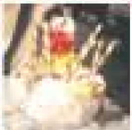
5 Shop till you drop. Avoid the hassle of going to Divisoria without paying mall prices. St. Francis Square in Ortigas offers the tiangge shopping experience in air-conditioned floors. Shoes, clothes, bags and other stuff are on sale from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.



6 Why not stay at home for a change and do a theme Mother's Day party for your Mom? Make everybody turn Japanese and hold a yukata party at home. The yukata is a summer garment traditionally worn around the house. Sushi and kani salad make for low-calorie party fare, too.



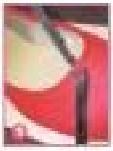
7 Go old school for Mother's Day and chuck out the digital camera. Have her portrait painted, drawn or sketched instead. Bong Rinoza [illegible] ([illegible]) offers these services in a booth at 2/F, St. Francis Square.

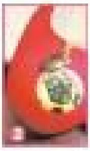


8 End the day just chilling, literally. Order the Penthouse ice cream at the Lobby of the Peninsula Manila. This giant tub of happiness is the perfect ending to a perfect day.

Make your own Mother's Day gift







By Irene Pineda [illegible]
2bU Contributor

I WANTED TO give my mom something different this Mother's Day. I wanted to give her a present that will remind her of me every time she sees it. I decided there couldn't be a more special gift than one I made for her and so, I embellished a clutch bag and a pair of ballet flats for her. Here's how you can do it, too:

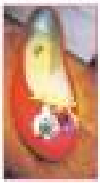


Materials:
- Plain ballet flat shoes
- Clutch bag
- Scissors
- Glue
- Needle and thread
- Pliers
- Leather cord
- Beads
- Old buttons
- Old necklace
- Old belt
- Old pair of earrings
- Satin cord

Red ballet flats

Step 1

Remove all attached designs to the shoes like ribbons and beads.



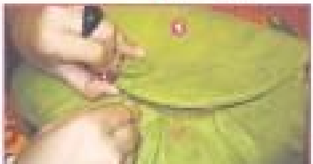
Step 2

Using a leather cord, tie together old earrings, old buttons, beads to form a small round design. Attach the leather cord with beads to the hole on the ballet flats. Be sure to secure it properly. Don't forget to glue knots with fabric glue.

Step 3

Attach ribbon or satin cord to add more color and to cover the knots. Don't forget to glue ribbon with fabric glue.





Green clutch

Step 1

Remove pendant of existing necklace. Attach the pendant to a leather cord. By tying knots, attach beads and other ornaments. Attach it to the button in the front side of the clutch. If there is no button, you can sew the leather cord with ornaments in the middle of the flap or clutch opening.

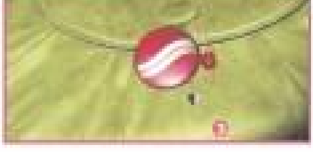
Step 2

Using pliers, detach chains and charms on your old belt. Sew it to the flap of the clutch.

Step 3

Add additional beads on the flap of the clutch either by sewing onto the charm or by using fabric glue.





LIFE CAN'T WAIT

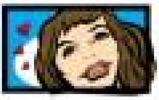
'Probinsyana' in Manila

[illegible]

Ugly duckling no more

[illegible]

Nearing 30 and still no boyfriend



[illegible]

Traveling while growing up is a double-edged sword

By Matthew Northcott
Contributor

'I have had to give up on friendships because of the simple fact that I won't see my friends again'



BIG CATCH. Matthew enjoys fishing.

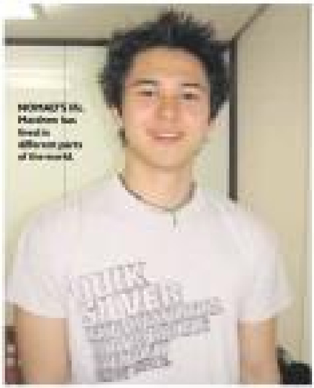


RUGBY DAYS. Matthew (front row, third from right) plays in regional competitions.

MOVING FROM ONE country to another has been my childhood. I've grown up in the urban jungle of Manila, the beaches of Guam and the dunes of Egypt. And those are but a few places I have lived in.

Taking up rugby

In boarding school





Mother's Day watch





AGA FOR SUN CELLULAR

Bad, bad, bad blogs!

They feature the worst hair, makeup, and eyebrows

By [illegible]
INQ Correspondent

YOU MIGHT ASSUME THAT the pics from the following nasty blogs were meant to poke fun at others. While this is possible, you can look at them as some sort of what-not-to-do's. While giggling a little, of course.

Bad hair

http://community.livejournal.com/bad_hair/

Bad extensions, bad haircuts, bad bleaching jobs, bad choice of hair dye, bad braids, bad hairstyles our parents let us have when we were kids—they can all be found in this addicting blog that will have you clicking for minutes. At least you'll know what not to do with your own hair if you don't want to be posted in this blog.

Bad eyebrows

http://community.livejournal.com/badeyebrows/

Bad eyebrows are either too thin and freaky or too thick and bushy. This blog will show you the many in-betweens though, such as unibrows and the badly arched brows—all of them in great need of a major eyebrow makeover. Each picture in this community blog is hair-raising, so check yourself when you raise your eyebrows.

Bad makeup

http://community.livejournal.com/badmakeup/

Too much blush, uneven makeup, wrong shade of lipstick—all these makeup mistakes are here. Not everything though is bad, especially on goth girls and punkheads, who have a different definition of beauty. However you define beauty or bad makeup, this blog is overflowing with these entered in comments, each one undoubtedly interesting.

E-mail the author at [illegible]

One man, two voices

From page [illegible]



Nick Pitera can sing female parts a lot better than most women

One man, two voices

By Bianca Consunji
Correspondent

VERY FEW WILL REMEMBER OR even know of "Eddie Karaoke," a segment of a comedic variety show that featured various men in a singing contest.

However, viewers who have caught the show at least once will definitely remember the costumes the contestants wore. Like Two-Face from Batman, they all had strange outfits that split right down the middle.

Half of the man would be clothed in something rough and manly, like leather jackets and acid-washed denim, while the other half was draped in feathers, lace and rhinestones.

But the strangest part of the contest wasn't even the costumes. Whenever the contestant sang with his "manly" side to the audience, he growled songs like the Village People's "Macho Man" in a deep baritone voice. But when his feathers and frills dominated the stage, the contestant would replace the baritone with a screechy soprano.



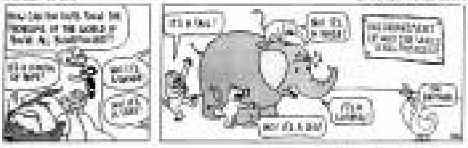
2bU LifeStyle



'I honk, I scream. I step on the brakes, I pray. The sound is horrible'

Crash and learn

SHIRLEY'S PETS



A. LIPIN



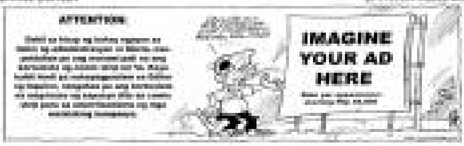
TULDOK



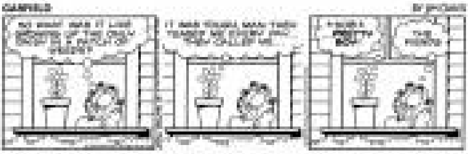
PUGAD BABOY



DIVINE COMEDY

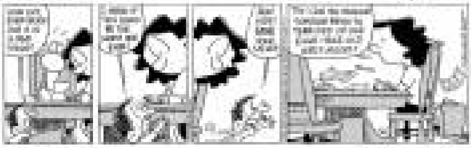


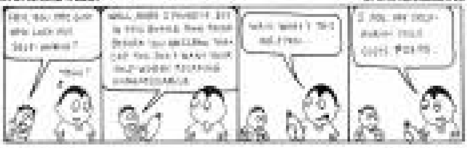
GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS

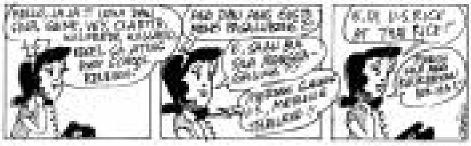


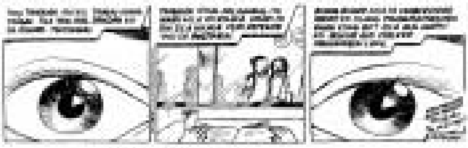


BABY BLUES





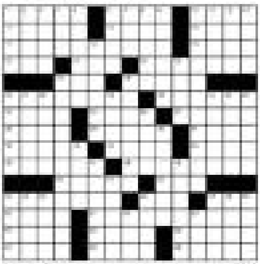




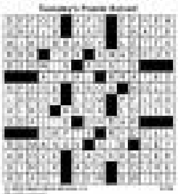
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			4	6				
			9		2	1		
		5					6	
	5		3					6
9					4			3
3		4	8	5				1
1	9		5				7	
		6				5		
		7	6	2	1	4	3	

Difficulty Level ★★★

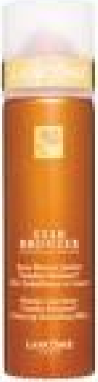
HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and programs at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

Leaner legs, longer-lasting tan



SELF-TANNER makes your legs look slimmer.

By Bianca Consunji
2bU Correspondent

WONDERING IF you should wear sunscreen even if it's starting to rain? Want to know how you can make your tan last longer? Or do you just want your legs to look good in short shorts and dresses?



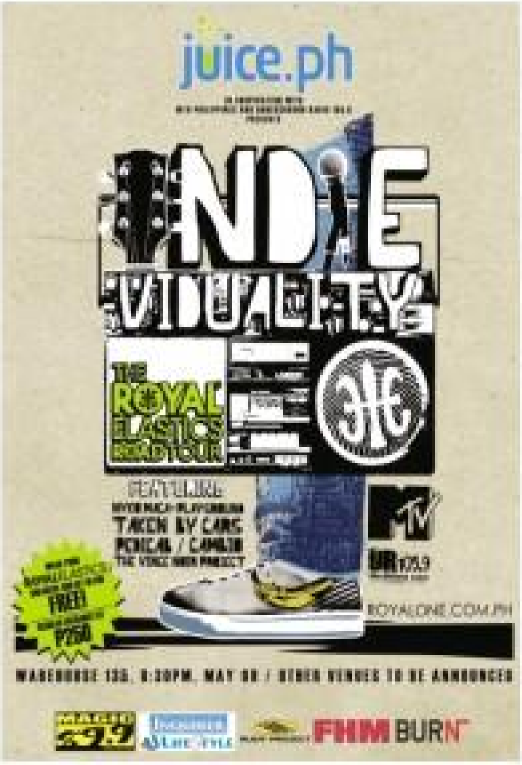


'I don't drink and drive'



The Ford Road Safety Youth Council spreads the gospel on the evils of drunk driving

Gruesome statistics





Designer pieces, bargain prices

Most items are out-of-season, but, hey, who would know?



COMFY jeans and a knitted top









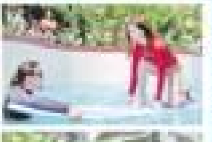
Surf in the city



Learn the sport at the Philippine Surfing Academy in Club Manila East



PADDLE, stand, ride: Paolo Soler gives surf lessons at Club Manila East.







Surfing 101

By Paolo A. Soler
Surfing Instructor, Philippine Surfing Academy



ENTERTAINMENT

Editor: Bayani G. Velasco





There's another Pinoy in 'Britain's Got Talent'

Cute moppet's mom is from Cebu

By Bayani San Diego Jr.



CHARLIE Green on the NET stage, above, and meeting Princess Anne, below, the highlight of his young career — so far.

TURNS OUT, MADONNA DECE- [illegible] isn't the only Pinoy on the reality search, "Britain's Got Talent."

According to various blogs, [illegible]-year-old [illegible] could very well be Charlie Green, an 11-year-old Filipino-British jazz singer who similarly wowed judges and audiences in the show's Birmingham tryouts.

Green, who sang Frank Sinatra's "Summer Wind," received a standing ovation from the audience and rave reviews from the three judges: [illegible] Simon Cowell, journalist Piers Morgan and dancer-actress Amanda Holden.

The notably caustic Cowell commended the lad: "You're a [illegible]

THERE'S E3





NEW TWIST Jon Bon Jovi's Jon Bon Jovi, Richie Sambora ... perform with a full orchestra. Review, E3



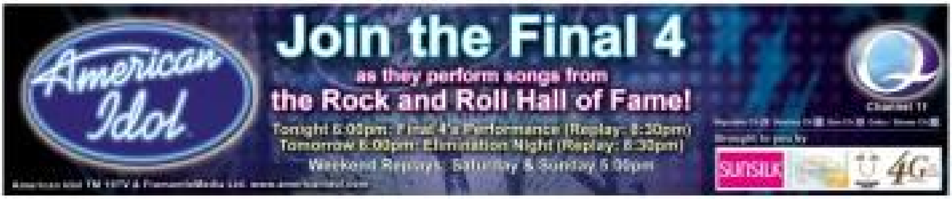












METRO MANILA

IMAX · THE PODIUM · SM CINEMA

U23D

DEEP SEA 3D

T-REX

D-CINEMA HANNAH MONTANA & MILEY CYRUS

PREMIERE CINEMA
WHEN LOVE BEGINS
DIRECTOR'S CLUB
IRON MAN
RESERVED

LUZON

VISAYAS • MINDANAO

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS 635-5555

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

1 IRON MAN
2 IRON MAN
3 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS
4 IRON MAN
5 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
6 DECEPTION
7 PLOMING
8 Indiesine: ROXXXANNE
9 IRON MAN
10 FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

ERMITA

1 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
5 DECEPTION
6 PLOMING
7 IRON MAN
8 FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
9 IRON MAN

METRO EAST

1 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS
2 IRON MAN
3 DECEPTION
4 FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
5 SUPERHERO MOVIE
6 PLOMING
7 IRON MAN
8 WHEN LOVE BEGINS

NOVALICHES

1 IRON MAN
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

PIONEER

1 IRON MAN
2 DECEPTION
3 IRON MAN
4 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

STA. ROSA

1 IRON MAN
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

LIPA

1 IRON MAN
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

DASMARIÑAS

1 IRON MAN
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

IMUS

1 IRON MAN
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

ANGELES

1 IRON MAN
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 STREET KINGS

STARMILLS

1 IRON MAN
2 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
3 IRON MAN
4 STREET KINGS
5 FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
6 IRON MAN

BACOLOD

1 IRON MAN
2 IRON MAN
3 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
4 FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
5 SEMI-PRO
6 NIM'S ISLAND

ILOILO

1 IRON MAN
2 IRON MAN
3 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
4 FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
5 SUPERHERO MOVIE
6 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS





CHARLIE'S proud parents, Roger Green and the former Cecille Sumangs, said to be from Dumaguete, Cebu.

There's another ...

From page E1

little one," Morgan praised his dancing; Hedden predicted that the kid would win the title.

Like Duncan, Green is not coming to the next round of the season.

Filipino bloggers have readily embraced Green as Pinoy. One site reported that Charlie's mom, Cecille Sumangs, "hails from Dumaguete, Cebu."

Inquirer Entertainment asked [illegible] via e-mail interview if she had heard of Green's Filipino roots.

"I heard, but I can't confirm," she replied. "But it's been reported [that he's half-Filipino]. Based on his looks, it's evident that he has Asian blood."

Confirmation

Various reports have since confirmed that Green is, indeed, half-Filipino.

According to the Daily Mail, Green, who's from [illegible], Pembrokeshire, was coached by his father Roger, principal vocalist of the Black and White Minstrels which was featured on a BBC show from 1958 to 1978.

The pint-sized warbler told the Daily Mail: "Because my dad is a singer, there's always music in the house. I love Frank Sinatra and Michael Bublé. I'd love to sing with [them]."

On the show, he said that his dream is to become a professional singer. "It's something I just picked up naturally when I was growing up."

The same online report recounted that Green had performed at the Royal Opera House or St. James Palace for Princess Anne.

Green's home page confirmed this, adding that meeting the Princess Royal at age 8 was the highlight of his young career.

According to his website, Green, who was born on February 16, 1997, started singing tunes like "New York, New York" and "If I Were a Rich Man" at age 2 for family and friends.

A year later, he joined a talent show, singing "All of Me" on the cruise ship Grand Majesty.

For one so young, he has built an impressive résumé, performing in different theaters across the UK.

Last year, Green also recorded a Christmas song, "Hands Around the World," composed by Cedric Whitehouse.

According to the kid's home page, Whitehouse (who had previously worked with artists like [illegible]) invited the kid to record the song for charity.

Green's chosen beneficiary is Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, a cause close to his heart because a good friend, [illegible], suffers from this ailment.

E-mail: [illegible]

Did You Know...

[illegible]

MMTA MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

[illegible]

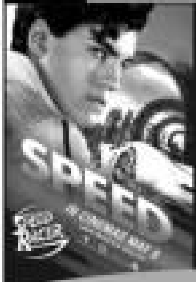


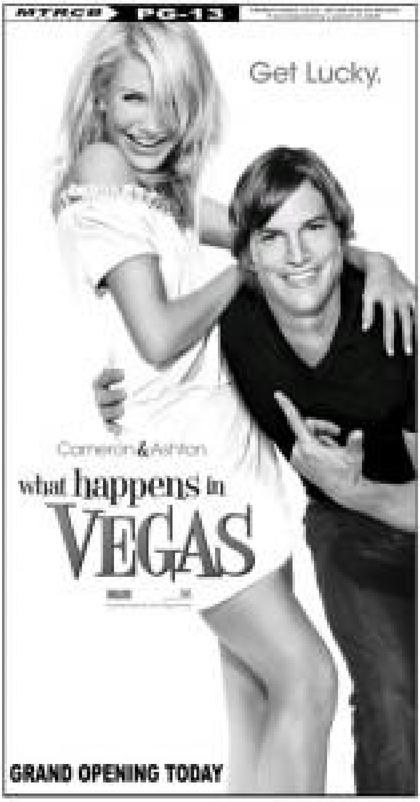
AT THE CINEMAS

GLORIETTA 1	1 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM	2 IRON MAN	3 DECEPTION	4 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
GLORIETTA 4	1 WHEN LOVE BEGINS	2 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM	3 IRON MAN	
	4 IRON MAN	5 IRON MAN	6 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	7 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
GREENBELT 1	1 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	2 IRON MAN		
GREENBELT 3	1 IRON MAN	2 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS		
	3 IRON MAN	4 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM	5 IRON MAN	
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 IRON MAN	2 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS		
	3 IRON MAN	4 WHEN LOVE BEGINS	5 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM	
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 IRON MAN	2 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	3 WHEN LOVE BEGINS	4 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
MARKET! MARKET!	1 IRON MAN	2 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM		
	3 [illegible]	4 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	5 WHEN LOVE BEGINS	
TRINOMA	1 WHEN LOVE BEGINS	2 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	3 DECEPTION	4 IRON MAN
	5 THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM	6 IRON MAN	7 IRON MAN	

AT THE MALLS

[illegible]





Opening This Week

Speed Racer

Stars Emile Hirsch, Susan Sarandon, John Goodman, Christina Ricci, Matthew Fox, Rain

Directed by Larry and Andy Wachowski

Based on a 1960s Japanese TV series and comic book, this [illegible] fun follows Speed (Hirsch) as he races against the baddies. Todd McCarthy of Variety thinks it's "[illegible] ... but completely silly." Kirk Honeycutt of The Hollywood Reporter states that it "causes the sensation of being trapped inside a [illegible] game." [illegible] of [illegible] "One of the most [illegible] visually astonishing [illegible] ever made."

Deception

Stars Hugh Jackman, Ewan McGregor, Michelle Williams, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Maggie Q

Directed by Marcel Langenegger

A [illegible] lawyer (Jackman) [illegible] a meek accountant (McGregor) to explore a world of [illegible] [illegible] games. [illegible] McGrath of TV Guide calls it a "[illegible] thriller ... the less you expect ... the more enjoyable it is." Colin Covert of Minneapolis Star Tribune describes it as "a well-designed [illegible] [illegible]." [illegible] of LA Weekly sums it up as a "cross between a James Bond adventure and a Victoria's Secret."

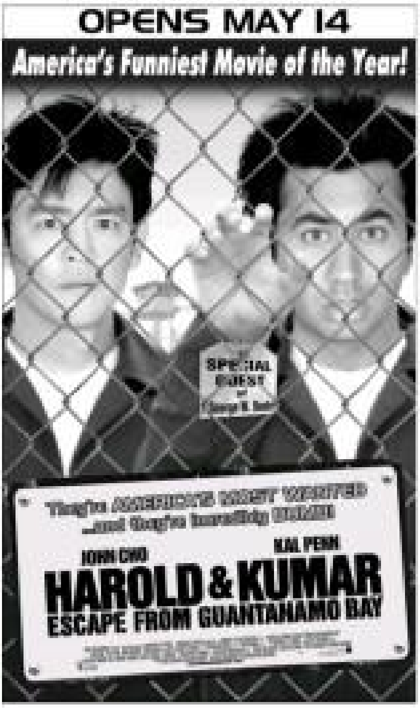

CAMERON Diaz and Ashton Kutcher

What Happens in Vegas

Stars Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher, Dennis Farina, Queen Latifah, Lake Bell

Directed by Tom Vaughan

After a drunken night, [illegible] strangers (Diaz and Kutcher) discover they've gotten married. After the groom wins a jackpot, they try to end the union, but they fall in love. Andrew L. Urban of Urban Cinefile notes that the romantic comedy is "made with ... [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]." [illegible] of Urban Cinefile dismisses it as a "predictable, [illegible] [illegible] that offers a [illegible] story."



Kama Sutra Nights

Stars [illegible] Phoenix, [illegible], Zain [illegible], Eric Manning, [illegible] Malik

Directed by Eric Manning

Originally titled "Maya," the [illegible] love story is reportedly "inspired by the [illegible] story [illegible] with the tale of [illegible]." Director Manning considers the [illegible] as the film's highlight. "The [illegible] ... [illegible] sounds [illegible] and captures a mystical dance that can't be found anywhere else." Actress [illegible] insists that the film is "[illegible]." [illegible] Manning of his lead star: "She's subtle and profound."

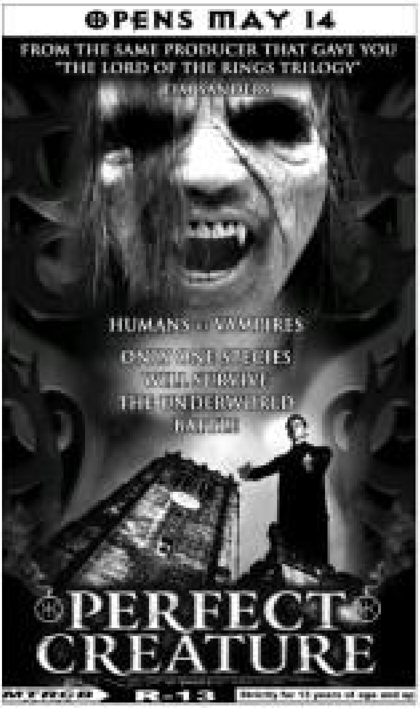
Roman[illegible]

Stars [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Elizabeth [illegible], [illegible]

Directed by [illegible]

A college student [illegible] collects sex videos of female celebrities, [illegible] fantasy plans for a [illegible]. [illegible] his parents' [illegible], unknowingly setting off a series of events that lead to a violent climax. The director says his film takes a look at how a seemingly harmless gadget can trigger social change and alter lives. [illegible] Indonesian [illegible].





Reading with the stars











Celebs pay tribute to their mothers

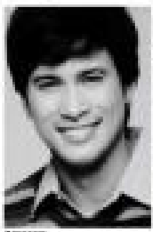
DOLLY WOOD



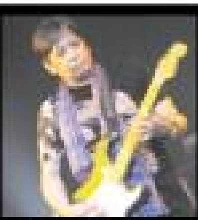
Dolly Anne Carvajal



CARYLLE

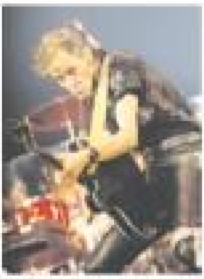








A Juan de la Cruz symphony



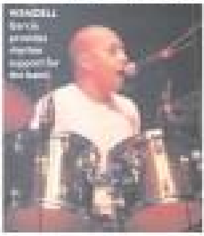




REVIEW

Befuddled

Natural flair



RUSHES

Reader: Baron needs rehab, but first he should face lawsuit

[illegible]



[illegible]

Happily married

[illegible]

Hendrix sex tape

[illegible]



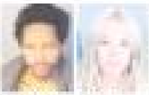
HEART Evangelista

Drink to that!

[illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]

Top of the Talk Shows

[illegible]

Pride and pain

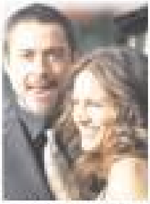
[illegible]

Private Pido

[illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]

Alas, no more

[illegible]

Very sad

[illegible]